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Appl. No. 10/717,884
Amdt. dated July 14, 2008
Reply to Office Action of March 12, 2008

Amendments to the Drawings:

A revised drawing sheet is enclosed herewith.

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Remarks

The present amendment responds to the Official Action dated March 12, 2008. A petition for a one month extension of time and authorization to charge our credit card the one month extension fee of \$120 accompany this amendment.

The Official Action objected to the specification. The Official Action objected to claims 2-6, 8-10, 12-15, 18, and 19. The Official Action rejected claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. 101. The Official Action rejected claims 1-19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) based on Drummond U.S. Patent No. 6,970,846 (Drummond). The Official Action rejected claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) based on Junkerman U.S. Patent No. 7,296,226 (Junkerman).

These objections and grounds of rejection are addressed below. An amended drawing sheet is enclosed herewith. The specification has been amended. Claims 1-19 have been amended to be more clear and distinct. Claims 1-19 are presently pending.

The Objection to the Specification

The Official Action objected to the specification as failing to provide antecedent basis for the reference to a program storage medium. The specification has been amended to refer to program storage medium 19, and an amended drawing sheet of Fig. 1 is enclosed herewith, which has been renumbered so that browser 8 and scripting engine 18 are now shown in program storage medium 19. This objection has now been overcome and should be withdrawn.

The Objections to the Claims

The Official Action objected to claims 2-6, 8-10, 12-15, 18, and 19. The objection specifically notes that "a software agent" should be "the software agent"; however, claims 2-6 all

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refer to "the software agent." However, after reviewing these claims, the initial "a" has been changed to "the". With the present amendments to the claims, this ground of rejection is believed to have been overcome and should be withdrawn. Otherwise, clarification is requested.

The 101 Rejections

The Official Action rejected claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. 101 as addressing nonstatutory subject matter, stating that the specification does not indicate whether the "script engine" referred to is implemented as hardware, software, or a combination and interprets the "script engine as being implemented as software per se. This ground of rejection is respectfully traversed. A script engine is known in the art as residing in and controlling hardware, and the present script engine is described as retrieving and acting on the contents of files, inherently involving the action of hardware to store the files being acted on and to allow interpretation of the files and for appropriate action to be taken. However, claims 1-6 have been amended to address a user terminal and to otherwise clarify the use of a hardware and software combination. Claims 1-6 therefore overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101, which should now be withdrawn.

The Art Rejections

All of the art rejections hinge on the application of Drummond and Junkerman, each taken standing alone. As addressed in greater detail below, Drummond and Junkerman do not support the Official Action's reading of them and the rejections based thereupon should be reconsidered and withdrawn. Further, the Applicant does not acquiesce in the analysis of Drummond and Junkerman made by the Official Action and respectfully traverses the Official Action's analysis underlying its rejections.

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The Official Action rejected claims 1-19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) based on Drummond. In light of the present amendment to claims 1, 7, 11, 16, and 17, this ground of rejection is respectfully traversed.

As presently amended, claim 1 addresses a user terminal comprising a web browser operative to receive user inputs to a web page displayed under the control of the web browser and respond to activation of a specially designated command by passing to a script engine details identifying a file to be invoked by the command that has been activated. Claim 1 further addresses the script engine, comprising a file executable by a computer and causing the computer to mediate communication between the web browser and a software agent. The script engine is operative to retrieve a file indicated by the details passed by the web browser to the script engine and to control the computer so as to pass appropriate requests and responses between the web browser and the software agent as indicated by the retrieved file. The limitations of claim 1 in the claimed combination are not taught and are not made obvious by Drummond. Drummond teaches an automated banking machine apparatus and system, including systems and techniques for presenting a user with a familiar interface at banking machines operated by other institutions. The Official Action relies on Drummond's common gateway interface as teaching the claimed script engine and Drummond's back office system as teaching the claimed software agent.

However, Drummond does not address the invocation by a browser of a specially designated file which is identified to a script engine, with the script engine reading the file and taking actions as indicated by the file. The invocation of a file and the use of that file by a script engine allows for a degree of modularity not addressed by Drummond, allowing for a separate

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script engine to process commands or other data presented using a browser, but with these commands and data being implemented through individual files, so that a change to the functionality to be achieved can be accomplished by changing a file, without changes to the script engine or a web page presented using the browser, or by adding a file along with a simple reference to the file, with no need for revision of the script engine or changes to executable code or script in the web page. Claim 1, as amended, therefore defines over the cited art and should be allowed.

Claims 7, 11, 16, and 17 similarly address presenting identification of a file to a script engine which takes action as indicated by the file, and therefore define over the cited art on the same basis as claim 1.

The Official Action also rejected claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) based on Junkerman. In light of the present amendments to claims 1, 7, 11, and 16, this ground of rejection is respectfully traversed.

In the rejection of claim 1, the Official Action relies on Junkerman's business services layer as reading on the claimed script engine and the back-end systems layer as reading on the claimed software agent. However, Junkerman does not address the invocation by a browser of a specially designated file which is identified to a script engine, with the script engine reading the file and taking actions as indicated by the file. Claim 1, as amended, therefore defines over the cited art and should be allowed.

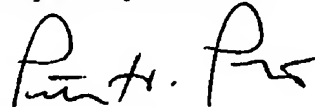
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Claims 7, 11, and 16 similarly address presenting identification of a file to a script engine which takes action as indicated by the file, and therefore define over the cited art on the same basis as claim 1.

Conclusion

All of the presently pending claims, as amended, appearing to define over the applied references, withdrawal of the present rejection and prompt allowance are requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Annotated Marked-Up Drawing
10/717,884

FIG. 1

